(c) The whole of the tank-shed forms part of the Palace. The exact extent has not been ascertained.

(d) No.

Mr. K. T. Mathew.—Sub-division (b) is not answered.

President. – I suppose there was a general order for handing over tanks and wells to the Sanitary Department.

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—Yes, Sir.

President.—There was a change of policy. All these tanks and wells were under the Diwan Peishkar. In the year 1089 they were handed over to the Sanitary Department. The Panchayat came into existence only in 1096. Is it not, Mr. Raman Menon?

Mr I. Raman Menon.—Yes, Sir, we had only very few Panchayats then.

President.—So all tanks and wells were handed over to the Sanitary Department.

The Report of the Sanitary Survey Committee.

151. Mr. K. T. Mathew.—Will the Government be pleased to inform—

(a) whether the Committee appointed by the Government for a sanitary survey of the State did not mention in their reports submitted in the year 1916 that, with reference to the improvement of the sanitary condition of Kunnamkulam, "a great deal still remains to be done and as suggested in the notes appended to the Talappalli Taluk statement, we would recommend that a special scheme be drawn up for the improvement of the sanitary conditions of this place by an expert";

(b) whether, as suggested by them, an expert was asked to draw up a scheme and submit, and if this has not been done,

(c) whether the Government has any serious objection to do this, especially in view of the Government answer to question 225 that the drainage in the town is in an unsatisfactory condition, and consequently it is difficult to keep the roads also in an efficient condition, and if the answer is in the negative, what steps will be taken to improve the present unsatisfactory condition?

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—(a) Yes.

(b) No.

(c) The Government are not in a position to embark on costly town-planning schemes by experts. It is sufficient to improve the sanitary condition of the place, and a scheme for the better sanitation of the town was approved by the Government. No scheme of experts is considered necessary for remedying the defects.

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Mr. K. T. Mathew.—When was the scheme drawn up?

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—The last scheme approved by the Government was that formed in 1099 by the Road Improvement Committee. A programme for three years was laid down and sanctioned by the Government, and works were carried out year by year.

The improvement of Naduppanthi in Kunnamkulam.

152. Mr. K T. Mathew.—With reference to the answer to question No 303 (legislative session), will the Government be pleased to state—

(a) what is the expenditure estimated for widening the 'Naduppanthi' in Kunnamkulam Town; who prepared the estimate and when was it prepared;

(b) whether anywhere in the State people have come forward and given such valuable ground and houses for such purposes free, in the near past; and if so, when and where;

(c) if the answer to clause (b) is in the negative, what is the reason for taking a different attitude towards the improvement of Kunnamkulam;

(d) whether the Government has any objection to make enquiries with the help of a few non-officials and find out that the work could be done by adopting any less costly scheme;

(e) whether the Government has any objection to complete the work slowly within two or three years' time, executing every year a part of the work, and if this view is not acceptable to the Government, what arrangement the Government will make for getting the work done, for the execution of which there have been so many petitions and representations to the Government from the people as well as from the Town Improvement Committee appointed by the Government;

(f) whether any part of the work will be taken up for execution before the close of 1102, and whether necessary amount of money for it will not be provided in the budget for the year 1102?

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—(a) The expenditure was estimated at Rs. 30,000 approximately by the Eastern Division Assistant Engineer in 1099.

(b) Lands have been given free of compensation in many cases in Mattancheri and Ernakulam.

(c) No answer is called for.

(d) No further enquiry as proposed seems to be necessary. The Government will however be glad to consider any fresh schemes for the purpose.

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